

The Fourth Sunday of Easter



"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."
~ John 10:11

Sunday, April 21 at 10AM



ST. JOHN

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Celebrating faith, sharing community



Welcome to
St. John:
Happy
Easter!

This service bulletin will guide your participation in our worship service. You may also follow along in the (red) Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 355.

We say together the text in **bold**.

Our liturgy welcomes people of all ages. For those who desire it, the **Nursery** is open and staffed by our professional team. An Usher can direct you.

Hearing devices are available at both entrances to the church. An usher is happy to assist you.

Easter is the center and climax of the Christian year. The seven weeks of the Easter Season are a celebration and an exploration of God's sacrificial, loving victory over every form of death and destruction. Easter assures of God's never-failing love, affirms our identity as God's children, and enables us to embody God's love for the world.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on "St. Peter"

Harold E. Darke

Welcome and Announcements

Processional *The King of love my shepherd is*

Hymn 646

Descant

6 And so through all the length of days thy

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
* 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

6 good - ness fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

6 And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: *Dominus regit me*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); desc. David Willcocks (b. 1919). Descant by permission of Oxford University Press.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria S280

Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Our weekly **liturgy** (i.e., form of worship) follows a pattern that Christians have enacted for centuries gathering in God's house, proclaiming God's deeds in scripture and song, communing with God in prayer, and eventually gathering at the altar/table to be nourished by Christ's Body & Blood. This pattern is how we remember God's love for us. It also allows us to remember ourselves as God's people for the world.

Every service of the **Eucharist, or Mass**, is divided into two sections: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of Holy Communion. The first section borrows from Jewish synagogue patterns of readings, teaching & prayer. The second section is a gathering – a literal a “re-remembering” – of the Body of Christ around the table of Christ as we celebrate the Last Supper. Jesus instructed us to, “do this in remembrance of me” (Lk 22:19).

The **Collect** is a short prayer that changes every week, yet its function remains the same. This opening petition is meant to *collect* our scattered thoughts and intentions as we communally direct our hearts and minds to God.

Today's **First Reading** continues the story of Peter and John's miraculous healing of a lame beggar at the Temple gate, followed by their arrest. According to Luke, the arrest is instigated by the Sadducees, who did not believe in a resurrection of the dead. The Pharisees, by contrast, taught a future resurrection for all people at the consummation of time, but Peter and John are proclaiming resurrection *now* as a present and life-giving reality in Jesus.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 23 *Sung by choir and congregation*

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

The LORD is my **shepherd**; *
I shall not be in **want**.

He makes me lie down in green **pastures** *
and leads me beside still **waters**.

He revives my **soul** *
and guides me along right pathways for his **Name's sake**.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no **evil**; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they **comfort me**.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who
trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running **over**.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my **life**, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for **ever**.

Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

Today's **Psalm** is surely the most familiar and popular of all psalms, celebrating God's loving care for us under the guise of a good shepherd who provides nourishment, security, and protection. God guides us on our journey through life so that we might "dwell in the house of the Lord."

Today's **Second Reading** highlights the defining mark of Christian life: love. According to John, self-giving love is proof that Christians have passed from death to life. By contrast, our refusal to love one another is tantamount to murder. True love is modeled upon the life of Jesus and manifest in acts of self-sacrifice and generosity. Such deeds reveal our true identity as children of God.

Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn *Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing*

Hymn 334

Please stand

1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -

vo - tion voic - ing; glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spi - rit, strong and free.

Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this Eu - cha -
by your Blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your Bo - dy,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in

rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - ery na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - lowers be.

Words: Howard Charles Adie Gaunt (1902-1983), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Alles ist an Gottes Segen*, melody att. Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758), alt.; harm. Johann Löhner (1645-1705), after chorale ver. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

The Gospel Reading

John 10:11-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John+

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.

And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Eric Hillegas

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

Today's Gospel

Reading develops the image of a shepherd. In Hebrew scripture, God is called the Shepherd of Israel, as well royal and messianic figures who lead and rescue God's people.

Jesus describes himself as the “good” – or model – shepherd. Jesus is a model both because of his willingness to lay down his life and also because of his intimate knowledge of his flock. The intimacy between a shepherd and his flock mirrors that between the Father and the Son. Such intimacy is meant to bring all of Jesus' followers into union with him and with one another.

This ancient confession of the universal Church unites us as one Body across time & space. **The Creed** provides an apostolic lens, or perspective, for understanding scripture. It also articulates foundational beliefs about the Triune God of Christian Faith. It is both a safeguard & inspiration, providing a shared foundation for our individual spiritual journeys.

Each week we **pray** for the Church, the world, the suffering & the dead. We pray for those who are closest to us, as well as those who are furthest away, being reminded in prayer that our family in Christ includes strangers whom we may never meet. The specific language & global perspective are offered to shape & inform our individual prayers throughout the week.

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Form III Stand or kneel BCP 387

O God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our Bishop; and Eric, our Rector;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially Joseph, our President; Josh, our Governor; and all our local officials;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially Donna, Marilyn, Ron, Carol, Jami, Gerald and family, Jane, Katie, Jen, Sigo, Sasha, Elizabeth, Michael, Joselyn, Rich, Dan, Randy, Vernon, John and Milton.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; especially Cheryl, Eva, Mabel, Kenneth, Richard, Warren, and Elizabeth;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, either
silently or aloud.

Pause for petitions from the People.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace Please stand

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

The Presentation of Eucharistic Elements

That Easter Day with joy was bright

Hymn 193



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the
2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his
3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do
4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in
5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing
2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn
3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee
4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon
5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.
3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.
4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.
5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Words: Latin, 5th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; alt. acc. John F. Erickson (b. 1938).

Having heard the Scriptures proclaimed (Readings) and having responded in faith (Creed), having prayed our intentions, we now exchange the language of reconciliation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:16-21), the language of heaven: *shalom*, or **peace**.

Q. What are the sacraments?

A. The sacraments are outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace, given by Christ as sure and certain means by which we receive that grace. (BCP, 857)

Q. What is the Holy Eucharist?

A. The Holy Eucharist is the sacrament commanded by Christ for the continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection, until his coming again. (BCP, 859)

The Celebrant continues with a remembrance of salvation history and Jesus' Words of Institution at the Last Supper until ... we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
We give thanks to you,
And we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues with prayers, summoning the Holy Spirit, until:

Celebrant Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

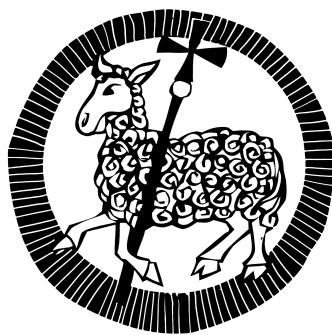
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



Bread and wine are offered in remembrance of the Last Supper in which Jesus took bread and wine and gave to his disciples, instructing them to “do this in remembrance of me.”

In the **fraction**, or breaking of bread, the Passion of Christ is “publicly exhibited” before our eyes (Gal. 3:1).

At the **altar** we offer ourselves to God, allowing ourselves to be broken & shared, like bread and wine, for the world. Finally, we receive the bread & wine – the Body & Blood of Christ – our spiritual food & drink, which unites us to Christ and his risen life.

Fraction Anthem S154

David Hurd

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 there - fore let us keep the feast.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Invitation to Communion and Godly Play

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Ushers will invite each row. Please notify an usher to receive Communion at your pew. Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all baptized Christians. Please come to the altar rail when invited; either kneel or stand. To receive the **bread** place one hand cupped on top of the other with palms facing up. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. **Wine** may be received either from the common chalice or from a tray of individual cups which follows the chalice. **Children** are invited to receive Communion first, or a blessing if not yet receiving Communion, and then dismiss to Godly Play.*

Communion Music

I Come With Joy to Meet My Lord

Wren/Buchanan

Ablutions

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

Hymn 644

1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -

Q. What are the benefits which we receive in the Lord's Supper?

A. The benefits we receive are the forgiveness of our sins, the strengthening of our union with Christ and one another, and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet which is our nourishment in eternal life.
 (BCP, 859-60)

vo - tion voic - ing; glo - ry be to God on high!
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
 lert and liv - ing in your Spi - rit, strong and free.

Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this Eu - cha -
 by your Blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your Bo - dy,
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in

rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
 ev - ery na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - lowers be.

Words: Howard Charles Adie Gaunt (1902-1983), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Alles ist an Gottes Segen*, melody att. Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758), alt.; harm. Johann Löhner (1645-1705), after chorale ver. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The response is: Amen.



Recessional

Christ is made the sure foundation

Hymn 518

Descant



4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er
cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1856), alt. Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929). Descant by permission of Church Society, London.

The term **Mass** derives from a Latin dismissal: *Ite, missa est*, or “Go, you are sent.”

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in C*

Vincent Lubeck

**The flowers on the High Altar are given to the
glory of God and in loving memory of:**

Cheryl, Eva, Mabel, Kenneth, Richard,
Warren, and Elizabeth



Parish Prayer List

Please Pray For: Donna, Marilyn, Ron, Carol, Jami, Gerald and family, Jane, Katie, Jen, Sigo, Sasha, Elizabeth, Michael, Joselynn, Rich, Dan, Randy, Vernon, John, and Milton.

The Departed: Cheryl Dumas (4/17/2024), Eva Glines (4/22), Mabel Linebaugh (4/24), Kenneth Wallick (4/24), Richard Lake (4/25), Warren Jenkins (4/26), and Elizabeth Deisher (4/27).

Birthdays: Susan Martin (4/22), Michael Dellinger (4/23), and Jeffrey Hersey (4/23).

Anniversaries: Milton and Susan Leake (4/24).

Worship Schedule This Week

Wednesday, 10AM: Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 8AM: Holy Eucharist, Rite I; **10AM:** Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Announcements

St. John is again sponsoring a table at this year's **Four Chaplains' Prayer Breakfast**. If you are interested in joining us at Wyndham Garden on Wednesday, May 8 from 7-9am, please contact Tory in the church Office.

St. John is proud to host the **Southern Convocation Confirmation service** on Saturday, May 11 at 3pm. We are thrilled to present to the Bishop 12 candidates for Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. Please join us in celebration as we come alongside those making a mature, public (re)affirmation of their faith. A festive reception will follow in the Commons.

Seasonal Liturgies

Throughout the year, we are pleased to offer worship opportunities beyond Sunday morning to help deepen and strengthen our faith. Join us on occasion as we mark significant events in Jesus' life and significant occasions in our church calendar. Taken together, regular participation in these services enriches both our personal and communal understanding of our faith.

We'll hold these services at varying times, offering as many choices as possible for those with busy work and family-centered lives – and we'll be conscious of your time. Most of these services are under 60 minutes, and many are only 30 minutes.

Please mark your calendar now and join us!

May

9 Thur	5:30PM	Ascension Day Service
11 Sat	3:00PM	Regional Confirmation Service at St. John
19 Sun	8:00AM	The Day of Pentecost
	10:00AM	The Day of Pentecost (w/ incense)
30 Thur	5:30PM	The Feast of Corpus Christi

June

23 Sun	8:00AM	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
	10:00AM	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

July

4 Thur	10:00AM	Independence Day Service w/ Brass Concert
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The Rev. Eric Hillegas, Rector
Mr. Rodney Barnett, Organist and Choir Director

St. John Episcopal Church is a community of believers
that welcomes all people to celebrate
God's presence in today's world.



A Jubilee Center
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